IN THE UNITED TATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

10/790,027

Confirmation No. 9737

Applicant

John A. Giordano et al.

Filed

2 March 2004

TC/Art Unit

1616

Examiner

F.I. Choi

Docket No.

48508-00014

Customer No.

23767

AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the issues raised by the Examiner in the Office Action mailed 11 August 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending rejections and reexamination of the present application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.

Conclusion begins on page 12 of this paper.